

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 SIG-03
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USICA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

USINT HAVANA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMCONSUL BUKAVU

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION USNATO

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AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY PRAIA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT:DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING, JULY 13, 1978

FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL, UNCORRECTED EXCERPT FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING. IF NECESSARY OFFICIAL
VERSION WILL FOLLOW.

Q: DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH
SENATOR BIRD'S STATEMENT THAT THE REVEREND YOUNG HAS --
QUOTE -- UNDERMINED HIS PRESIDENT AND HIS NATION, END
QUOTE.

A: I DON'T THINK I AM GOING TO BE IN A POSITION TO ADDRESS
THAT SPECIFIC QUESTION.
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BUT SINCE THIS IS OBVIOUSLY A SUBJECT ON SOME PEOPLE'S
MINDS HERE, LET ME SAY THAT A NUMBER OF THINGS HAVE BEEN
SAID AND A NUMBER OF PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SPEAKING TO THIS
ISSUE OF WHAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG RECENTLY SAID.

I THINK THAT I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT THE PRESIDENT TALKED
WITH SECRETARY VANCE YESTERDAY BY PHONE, AND SECRETARY
VANCE MET WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG TO CONVEY DIRECTLY THE
VIEWS WHICH WERE EXPRESSED YESTERDAY BY SPOKESMEN FOR THE
WHITE HOUSE AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT. AND THE VIEW I AM
REFERRING TO, OBVIOUSLY, I CAN ONLY REPEAT WHAT JODY
POWELL SAID YESTERDAY ON BEHALF OF THE ADMINISTRATION
THAT STATEMENTS REGARDING U.S. FOREIGN POLICY COME FROM
THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

NOW, HODDING ADDRESSED PARTS OF THIS QUESTION YESTERDAY
IN GENEVA. THE SECRETARY HAS BEEN ADDRESSING THIS
QUESTION HIMSELF IN GENEVA. JODY ADDRESSED THIS
QUESTION YESTERDAY AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

Q: THIS MAY BE A TECHNICAL POINT, BUT YOU MAKE THE

POINT IN THE STATEMENT FROM THE WHITE HOUSE AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT THAT STATEMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE U.S. FOREIGN POLICY ARE GIVEN BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE. IT JUST OCCURS TO ME THAT WHAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG IS QUOTED AS SAYING DOESN'T REALLY CONCERN FOREIGN POLICY.

ARE YOU MAKING A DISTINCTION THAT HE HAS DONE THIS?

A: NO. I THINK THERE WERE SEVERAL PARTS TO THE INTERVIEW, AND I THINK THAT, YES, SOME OF THE REMARKS THAT HE IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE SAID DO CONCERN FOREIGN POLICY.

LET ME SAY WITH REGARD TO THE POLITICAL
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PRISONERS PART OF THE INTERVIEW, IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG HAS ISSUED A STATEMENT WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE PRESS OFFICE AFTER THIS BRIEFING IS CONCLUDED. LET ME ALSO SAY THAT THERE WERE CERTAIN PARTS OF THE INTERVIEW WHICH CONCERNED FRENCH POLICY IN AFRICA. AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S INTERVIEW AND HIS REMARKS RELATING TO FRENCH POLICY IN AFRICA DO NOT REFLECT THE POLICIES OR JUDGMENTS OF THIS ADMINISTRATION AND MUST BE CONSIDERED AN EXPRESSION OF HIS PERSONAL VIEWS.

Q: HAVE THE FRENCH ASKED US ABOUT THIS?

A: ALL I CAN SAY OR CONFIRM IS THAT CONVERSATIONS HAVE TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS ON THIS MATTER.

Q: ANDREW YOUNG SAID AT ONE POINT IN THE INTERVIEW, WHICH WAS PUBLISHED TODAY BUT NOT YESTERDAY, WORDS TO THE EFFECT THAT THE SMITH REGIME BORE SOME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ATTACKS AGAINST MISSIONARIES. YOU SPECIFICALLY HAVEN'T TALKED ABOUT THAT. I WONDER IF YOU WOULD?

A: NO. I AM NOT IN A POSITION TO ADDRESS THAT. I HAVE NOTHING FOR YOU ON THAT.

Q: ARE THERE ANY OTHER DETAILS YOU CAN GIVE US ON THIS SOUTHWEST AFRICAN ACCEPTANCE PLAN -- AND WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

A: NO, THERE ARE NOT REALLY ANY OTHER DETAILS I CAN OFFER YOU.

WE DID ISSUE A BRIEF STATEMENT YESTERDAY EVENING BUT I AM
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NOT REALLY IN A POSITION TO GO BEYOND THAT. AMBASSADOR MCHENRY IS ON THE WAY BACK HERE TO THE UNITED STATES. HE SHOULD BE ARRIVING SHORTLY AND WE WOULD WANT TO HAVE A CHANCE TO SIT DOWN AND TALK WITH HIM ABOUT HOW THOSE MEETINGS WENT.

Q: COULD WE GET ANY AFRICAN BRIEFING IN THE NEAR FUTURE?

A: ABOUT THE NAMIBIA SITUATION?

Q: YES.

A: LET ME CHECK THAT OUT FOR YOU.

Q: IS IT YOUR FEELING THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT VIEWS THE AGREEMENT REPORTEDLY REACHED YESTERDAY AS A SUCCESS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION'S AFRICAN POLICY?

A: I THINK WE ARE GOING TO HAVE MORE TO SAY ONCE AMBASSADOR MCHENRY RETURNS. CHRISTOPHER

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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